



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE #4

In Re Application of:

Date: March 6, 2001

Benfield

Serial No.: 09/734,403

Group Art Unit: Unassigned

Filed: December 11, 2000

Examiner: Unassigned

For: METHOD AND SYSTEM FOR INTEGRATING ENCRYPTION
FUNCTIONALITY INTO A DATABASE SYSTEM

Attn: Office of Petitions
Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks
Washington, D.C. 20231

PETITION IN RESPONSE TO NOTICE OF INCOMPLETE APPLICATION

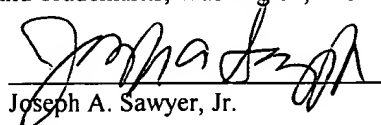
Sir:

In response to the Notice of Incomplete Nonprovisional Application issued February 6, 2001, Applicant asserts that the entire Specification, including Claims, Abstract and Drawing(s), was submitted with the filing of the application on December 11, 2000. As evidence, enclosed herewith is a copy of the return receipt postcard, stamped by the USPTO, itemizing eight (8) pages of specification, four (4) pages of claims, 1 page(s) of abstract and one (1) sheet of drawings.

As further evidence, submitted herewith is a copy of the attorney's checklist itemizing eight (8) pages of specification, four (4) pages of claims including 20 total and 3 dependent claims, one (1) page of Abstract and one (1) sheet of drawings. Applicant's attorney asserts that the enclosed checklist would not have been properly completed had all required elements not been present at the time of application filing. Accordingly, Applicant maintains that all application parts were submitted on December 11, 2000, and petitions the Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks to accord the above-identified application with the filing date of December 11, 2000.

Check no. 2902 in the amount of \$130.00 is enclosed for payment of the petition fee required by 37 C.F.R. 1.17(i).

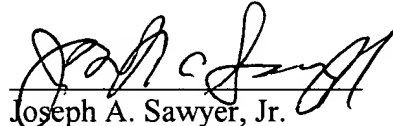
I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to the Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks, Washington, D.C. 20231, on March 6, 2001.


Joseph A. Sawyer, Jr.

Further, in accordance with the requirements of the Notice, Applicant submits a copy of the Specification, Claims, Abstract and Drawings, along with a newly executed Declaration to replace those originally filed December 11, 2000.

Applicant's attorney believes that all filing requirements for this application have been met. If any unresolved issues remain, please contact Applicant's attorney at the telephone number indicated below.

Respectfully submitted,



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